REMARKS

Please cancel Claims 13 and 20 without prejudice. Claims 1-12, 14-19 and 21-29 are pending. Claims 1, 8, 19 and 25 are amended herein. No new matter is added as a result of the claim amendments.

102 Rejections

The instant Office Actions states that Claims 1-12, 14-19 and 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Vetro et al. ("Vetro;" U.S. Patent No. 6,671,322). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-12, 14-19 and 21-29 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Vetro.

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a method that includes "receiving compressed input data for a frame of a plurality of frames ...; [and] downsampling said compressed input data to generate compressed downsampled data" (emphasis added). Claims 2-7 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 8 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a method that includes "selecting data processing functions according to the number of macroblocks characterized as said first coding type and the number of macroblocks characterized as said second coding type, wherein at least one of said processing functions comprises downsampling compressed data in the discrete cosine transform (DCT) domain" (emphasis added). Claims 9-12 and 14-18 are dependent on Claim 8 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 19 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a system that includes "a downsampler ... adapted to downsample said <u>compressed</u> input data and generate compressed downsampled data" (emphasis added). Claims 21-24 are dependent on Claim 19 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 25 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a computer-usable medium for performing a method that includes "accessing <u>compressed</u> input data residing in a buffer, said <u>compressed</u> input data comprising compressed data for a frame of a plurality of frames ...; [and] generating compressed downsampled data by downsampling said <u>compressed</u> input data" (emphasis added). Claims 26-29 are dependent on Claim 25 and recite additional limitations.

Applicants respectfully submit that Vetro does not show or suggest downsampling compressed data, as recited in the independent Claims 1, 8, 19 and 25. Vetro only describes downsampling decoded (e.g., decompressed) data. While Figure 11A, for example, of Vetro appears to show downsampling in the DCT domain, the description provided in Vetro (see column 9, lines 30-40, for example) very clearly describes that the incoming signal is decompressed before downsampling.

Thus, Applicants respectfully assert that Vetro only describes downsampling decompressed data, and that Vetro does not show or suggest performing downsampling operations on data while the data are still compressed, as recited in independent Claims 1, 8, 19 and 25. Applicants respectfully submit that Vetro only appears to be an example of a transcoder that decodes (decompresses) an input stream and downsamples

the decoded frames, as described in the background art section of the instant application (see page 1, lines 32-36, of the instant application).

In summary, Applicants respectfully submit that Vetro does not show or suggest the embodiments of the present claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 8, 19 and 25, and that these claims are considered patentable over Vetro. Because Claims 2-7, 9-12, 14-18, 21-24 and 26-29 depend from either Claim 1, 8, 19 or 25 and contain additional limitations, these claims are also considered patentable over Vetro. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-12, 14-19 and 21-29 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) is traversed.

103 Rejections

The instant Office Actions states that Claims 1-4, 8, 15-16 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Brusewitz (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0021345). The Applicants have reviewed the cited reference and respectfully submit that the present invention as recited in Claims 1-4, 8, 15-16 and 21 is not anticipated nor rendered obvious by Brusewitz.

Independent Claim 1 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a method that includes "selecting a data processing function according to the number of said macroblocks characterized as intra-coded, wherein a macroblock is characterized as intra-coded if the content of said macroblock is independent of the content of another macroblock; provided less than all of said macroblocks are characterized as intra-coded and said number of macroblocks characterized as intra-coded satisfies a threshold, downsampling said compressed input data." Claims 2-4 are dependent on Claim 1 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 8 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a method that includes "selecting data processing functions according to the number of macroblocks characterized as said first coding type and the number of macroblocks characterized as said second coding type." Claims 15-16 are dependent on Claim 8 and recite additional limitations.

Independent Claim 19 recites that an embodiment in accordance with the present invention is directed to a system that includes "a mode selector coupled to said input buffer, said mode selector adapted to select a data processing function according to the number of macroblocks characterized as said first coding type and the number of macroblocks characterized as said second coding type; ... and a decoder coupled to said mode selector, said decoder adapted to decode said compressed input data and generate decompressed data, wherein said compressed input data is directed by said mode selector to said downsampler provided less than all of said macroblocks are characterized as intra-coded and said number of macroblocks characterized as intra-coded exceeds a threshold and otherwise said compressed input data is directed by said mode selector to said decoder." Claim 21 is dependent on Claim 19 and recites additional limitations.

In essence, each of the independent Claims 1, 8 and 19 recite a mode selector (or mode selector functionality) that selects processing functions according to the number of intra-coded macroblocks. Applicants respectfully submit that Brusewitz does not show or suggest a mode selector element or function that performs as recited in Claim 1, 8 or 19.

In summary, Applicants respectfully submit that Brusewitz does not show or suggest the embodiments of the present claimed invention recited in independent Claims 1, 8 and 19, and that these claims are considered patentable over Brusewitz. Because Claims 2-4, 15-16 and 21 depend from either Claim 1, 8 or 19 and contain additional limitations, these claims are also considered patentable over Brusewitz. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the basis for rejecting Claims 1-4, 8, 15-16 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is traversed.
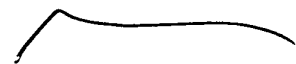
Conclusions

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims. Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully assert that Claims 1-12, 14-19 and 21-29 overcome the rejections of record and, therefore, Applicants respectfully solicit allowance of these claims.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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